

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of ) Examiner:  
OETJEN. )  
Serial No.: 10/589,517 ) Art Unit:  
Filed: August 16, 2006 ) Confirmation: 9438  
For: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR )  
FREEZE-DRYING PRODUCTS )  
Attorney Docket No.: ) Cleveland, OH 44114  
GEAL 2 00006 ) January 24, 2009**

**STATUS INQUIRY**

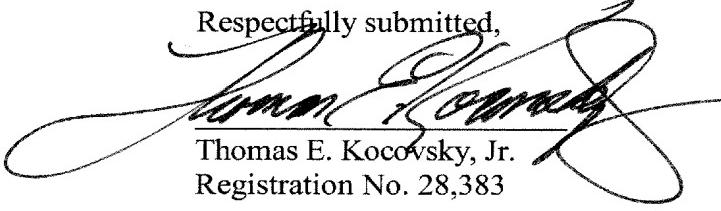
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22213-1450

Dear Sir:

On March 20, 2008, the Patent Office issued a Notice of New or Revised Projected Publication Date, projecting publication of the above-identified application on June 26, 2008. The applicant has yet to receive a Notice of Publication. The Patent Office website still shows this application as unpublished.

The applicant hereby inquires when it might expect publication of this application. Further, the applicant also inquires when it is projected that this application will be examined.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**Certificate of Electronic Transmission**

I certify that this **STATUS INQUIRY** is being transmitted to the USPTO by electronic transmission via EFS-Web on the date indicated below.

Date
January 26, 2009

Hilary M. McNULTY	Signature
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